



CITY OF SURPRISE
City Council Work Session
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374
Tuesday, August 6, 2024 @ 4:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

A. Call To Order

Mayor Hall called the Regular Council Work Session of August 6, 2024 to order at 4:00 p.m., located at Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, AZ. 85374.

B. Roll Call

In attendance with Mayor Hall were Vice Mayor Nick Haney, Council members Chris Judd, Alyson Cline, Patrick Duffy, Ken Remley and Jack Hastings.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Proclamation and Community Acknowledgements

E. City Manager Report

1. City Manager sub-text

F. City Clerk Report

G. Call To The Public

H. Regular City Council Work Session Agenda

1. CONSENT AGENDA:

2. REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - PUBLIC HEARING:

3. REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Presentation and discussion regarding an update of the Surprise Public Library System.

Arts, Culture, & Library Director Kelsey Lamphier; and Acting City Librarian Ashely Ware came to present this item. They talked about building the foundation of the library system, the number of Library Cards issued, and Visitor Count. Ashely Ware talked about Physical Collection and how that system works. She went over the digital collection, and other physical items they are offering for the Library of things. She also talked about Digital Equity, and Online Resources. Kelsey talked about adding/expanding services. Ashley talked about the Youth, Teen, and Adult Programming, Signature Events, Community Outreach, Engaging with the Community. Kelsey talked about the Library Survey Results; what do patrons value the most? And how can the library improve?

Councilmember Cline, talked about her support for this program, and the growth it has shown.

Mayor Hall asked what happens if someone wants a hard copy of a book and the process for finding it? Kelsey explained the process where they look it up in the system, and where they are in each library. She said that they could then get the book transported within the system, or place

a hold on the book.

Councilmember Remley, talked about the process of interviewing commission members for the Library, and asked if there was volunteer opportunities? And how costs were coming along so far for the Library? Kelsey said there is volunteer opportunities.

2. Presentation and discussion of a potential amendment to the Surprise Municipal Code, Chapter 2, Section 2-61 *Agenda*, pertaining to the placement of items on meeting agendas.

City Attorney, Robert Wingo, came to present this item on behalf of Council. He gave a history on this item and the portions of the code that impacted this. He also talked about the convening special meetings.

Councilmember Hastings, said he would prefer to have 24 hours for all council members.

Councilmember Judd, asked about the special meeting and the boundaries of open meeting laws and potentially violating them simply talking to other council members about initiating a special meeting. Robert talked about open meeting law. Councilmember Judd said he would prefer three people. He then asked about the need for physical signature or digital? Robert said he thinks email would be sufficient in the future.

Councilmember Remley, talked about his experience with requiring signatures. He was worried about adding items too late. He said he's fine with digital emails. Mayor Hall talked about the history of why the circumstances came to be now. He said he would support 48 hours.

Councilmember Duffy, said he would support 48 hours and 3 council members.

Robert asked if they were asking about business days or real hours? Mayor Hall said he preferred business days.

Councilmember Haney, said he supports 3 council members, and electronic submission, as well as 48 hours. He asked about scanned signatures versus straight emails? Mayor Hall said it should be direct email.

Councilmember Judd, said they don't need 24 hours, and he's good with a 48 hour business day cut off.

Mayor Hall clarified that it's close of business by Friday, and 3 council members for special session and 2 members for items.

Rebekah Massie, came to voice her concerns about the Library topic and the budget. She also talked about her support for the original proposal.

3. Presentation and discussion pertaining to recommended revisions to the City of Surprise City Council Policies and Procedures Manual.

Robert returned to talk about this item. He talked about the history of this item and the need for doing it. He talked about Rule 3, Subcommittees & Working Groups, the Mayor's Authority for those items, Creating a document to file with the Clerk, Complaint Process, Title 16 with regards to the City Clerk and City Attorney, He talked about reviewing the document every even numbered year. He compared other City's standards.

Mayor Hall, thanked staff for their effort.

Quintus Schulzke, a Surprise Resident, came to talk about this item. He voiced his concerns over the groups and subcommittees and their relevance to open meeting laws. Mayor Hall talked about the definition of open meeting law.

Attorney Wingo, talked about open meeting law. He said that there has never been a working group open to the public and closely follows state law.

Councilmember Haney, talked about the working groups, and he doesn't see an issue with the public attending.

Councilmember Hastings, asked if there were any examples? He said they weren't very interesting. Robert said the existing groups would be grandfathered in, and that the mayor could change them in the future. He then asked about the clarity of a working group versus a subcommittee? Robert said they don't usually use groups and haven't for some time. Councilmember Hastings said he doesn't have a problem making it public.

Robert went on to talk about the complaint issues brought up by Mr. Schulzke. He said that the public could direct complaints to the jurisdiction that has authority; but that City staff does not have the authority to investigate and discipline City Council.

Councilmember Remley, talked about a previous experience with the homeless population in the City. He said he didn't think the public would want to be involved in that level of the process.

Councilmember Duffy, said he doesn't care if the working groups are open to the public. He asked what happens if City staff gets a complaint. What do they do with it now? Robert said staff could receive it but they just can't act on it. He gave further examples of actions that could be taken. Councilmember Duffy asked if they would refer the resident to the county? Robert said it was very case specific. Councilmember Duffy asked how they would find out? Robert said they should seek their own legal counsel. Councilmember Duffy said he would not like complaints to die off.

Councilmember Hastings, talked about complaining to other Councilmembers. He went on to talk about potential conflict of interests.

Robert said there are numerous resources out there for grievous complaints or criminal violations.

Councilmember Hastings said they are not looking at the code but at an internal document. He said residents could always goto their Councilmembers.

Vice-Mayor Haney, said if there is an email and there is no response. And if they council could direct complaints accordingly? Robert said they could. But as the attorney he can't investigate his own client. Vice-Mayor Haney said that Robert is removing himself to make the process simpler. He said this document is for consistency and transparency.

Rebekah Massie, voiced her concerns about this topic and her opposition to the proposals.

- I. Other Business and Future Agenda Items
- J. City Council Reports
- K. Executive Session
 - 1. Executive Session Items
 - 2. Executive Disclaimer - Part 1
 - 3. Executive Disclaimer - Part 2

4. Executive Disclaimer - Part 3

L. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn

Initiated By: Aly Cline

Seconded By: Jack Hastings

Yes: Aly Cline, Jack Hastings, Ken Remley, Patrick Duffy, Skip Hall, Chris Judd, Nick Haney

No: None

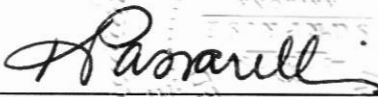
Abstain: None

Vote Result: Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 6:11 PM


Skip Hall, Mayor

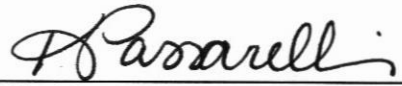
ATTEST:


Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk



CERTIFICATION:

I, Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of **Tuesday, August 6, 2024.**


Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk